



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 145**

January Session, 2007

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1146

*Senate, March 27, 2007*

The Committee on Environment reported through SEN. FINCH of the 22nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING HUMANE EDUCATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 10-16b of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2007*):

4 (d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum  
5 materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional  
6 boards of education in developing instructional programs and policies  
7 pursuant to this section. The State Board of Education, within available  
8 appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist  
9 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1)  
10 Holocaust education and awareness; (2) the historical events  
11 surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American  
12 history; (4) Puerto Rican history; (5) Native American history; (6)  
13 personal financial management; (7) principles of humane education,  
14 including the importance of character traits such as compassion,  
15 kindness and empathy and the humane and respectful treatment of

16 other people, animals and the environment, to be developed in  
17 consultation with, as needed, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the  
18 Commissioner of Education and representatives of the state farm  
19 industry, animal welfare organizations and humane education  
20 organizations; and [(7)] (8) topics approved by the state board upon  
21 the request of local or regional boards of education as part of the  
22 program of instruction offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
23 section.

24 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is  
25 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
26 *October 1, 2007*):

27 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-  
28 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil  
29 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or  
30 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such  
31 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)  
32 the nature and the relationship of drugs, as defined in subdivision (17)  
33 of section 21a-240, and alcohol to health and personality development,  
34 and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health and mental  
35 health risk reduction education which includes, but need not be  
36 limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and the  
37 relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually  
38 transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in  
39 section 19a-581, violence, child abuse and youth suicide, (3) the growth  
40 and development of exceptional children, including handicapped and  
41 gifted and talented children and children who may require special  
42 education, including, but not limited to, children with attention-deficit  
43 hyperactivity disorder or learning disabilities, and methods for  
44 identifying, planning for and working effectively with special needs  
45 children in a regular classroom, (4) school violence prevention and  
46 conflict resolution, (5) cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other  
47 emergency life saving procedures, (6) computer and other information  
48 technology as applied to student learning and classroom instruction,  
49 communications and data management, (7) the teaching of the

50 language arts, reading and reading readiness for teachers in grades  
 51 kindergarten to three, inclusive, and (8) second language acquisition in  
 52 districts required to provide a program of bilingual education  
 53 pursuant to section 10-17f. The State Board of Education, within  
 54 available appropriations and utilizing available materials, shall assist  
 55 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (A)  
 56 Holocaust education and awareness; (B) the historical events  
 57 surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (C) African-American  
 58 history; (D) Puerto Rican history; (E) Native American history; (F)  
 59 personal financial management; (G) principles of humane education,  
 60 as described in subsection (d) of section 10-16b, as amended by this act;  
 61 and [(G)] (H) topics approved by the state board upon the request of  
 62 local or regional boards of education as part of in-service training  
 63 programs pursuant to this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2007	10-16b(d)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2007	10-220a(a)

**ENV**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### **State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	100,000	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

#### **Municipal Impact:**

Municipalities	Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
All Municipalities	STATE MANDATE - Cost	Minimal	Minimal

### **Explanation**

This bill would result in a cost to the State Department of Education of approximately \$100,000 in FY 08 as it would require the development of curriculum materials surrounding humane education along with the publishing of those materials. Currently there are no personnel in the agency with expertise in this area and an outside expert would have to be utilized for its initial development. Cost would continue to some degree in the out years due to the continuing need to update and publish material however these costs would likely be less than the FY 08 costs which include development as stated above.

Additionally the bill results in a cost to local and regional school districts as it mandates a humane education curriculum. Local and regional school districts would see increased costs related to materials and the training of staff in this area. Such costs would likely be minimal in the scope of current budgets.

### **The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 1146*****AN ACT CONCERNING HUMANE EDUCATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to assist and encourage local and regional boards of education to include humane education as part of the curriculum for students and in-service training for teachers. SBE must do so within available appropriations and using available resources.

By law, SBE must make available curriculum and other materials to assist local and regional boards of education to develop instructional programs. It must also help and encourage them to include in the curriculum six specific topics plus any topic that the local and regional boards request and SBE approves. The bill adds the principles of humane education to that list. It also specifies that SBE must provide material to help boards develop instructional policies, in addition to programs under current law.

The bill adds the principles of humane education to the in-service training programs that SBE must help and encourage local and regional education boards to provide to teachers, administrators, and pupil personnel.

Under the bill, the principles of humane education curriculum include the importance of character traits such as compassion, kindness, and empathy and the humane and respectful treatment of people, animals, and the environment. The bill specifies that SBE must develop this curriculum in consultation with, as needed, the (1) agriculture and education commissioners, (2) state farm industry representatives, and (3) animal welfare and humane education

organizations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Optional Instructional and In-service Topics***

By law, the SBE, within available appropriations and using available resources, must (1) make available curriculum and other material and assist and encourage local and regional boards to develop instructional programs and (2) assist and encourage local and regional boards to provide in-service training on:

1. Holocaust education and awareness;
2. the historical events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland;
3. African-American history;
4. Puerto Rican history;
5. Native American history;
6. personal financial management; and
7. topics approved by the state board at the request of local or regional education boards.

The law mandates a prescribed course of study on which local and regional education boards must provide in-service training programs, including, for example, on the nature and the relationship of drugs and alcohol to health and personality development, and procedures for discouraging their abuse.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 21 Nay 9 (03/12/2007)

